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Cavanagh attacks faculty-CIA links

Professors allegedly helped agency in forming intelligence plans in '60s

By ALAN SIPPRESS

John Cavanagh GS yesterday accused five Princeton professors of serving as consultants for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) during the 1960s.

At a press conference held at the Third World Center, Cavanagh said that he had discovered

evidence of these previously unrevealed ties in the personal correspondence of former CIA director Allen W. Dulles '14, which is housed in Seeley G. Mudd Library.

The five professors, Cyril E. Black, Klaus E. Knorr, Joseph R. Strayer '25, James H. Billington '50 and the late Cuyler Young, met four times a year to assist in the formulation of the CIA's intelligence strategy, Cavanagh said.

Black and Knorr, professors of history, refused to comment on Cavanagh's charges. Knorr, a professor of public affairs, was unavailable for comment.

The five professors advised CIA's Office of National Estimates on several areas of strategic intelligence policy, especially those involving Russia and China, Cavanagh alleged.

Exact role unknown

However, he admitted, "We're not precisely clear what their exact role was in putting these estimates together."

Cavanagh also said that he had uncovered evidence of similar consultants at Harvard, MIT, Berkeley, and Duke in the Dulles papers.

Professor of Civil Engineering Steve M. Slaby, also present at the

press conference, attacked the actions of the consultants as "diametrically opposed to the 20th century ideals of academic scholarship."

"Academia cannot serve two masters," Slaby said.

He continued that professors cannot maintain academic freedom while engaging in covert activities.

"To stop the deadly onslaught of the CIA," Slaby suggested two lines of action.

The first is a resolution that he intends to present to the faculty dealing "with the concept of making the public aware of all relations of anyone in the Princeton community to any covert organizations."

Without a resolution such as this, Slaby asserted, "you begin to destroy the fundamental trust that allows academia to operate in an open, free, unfettered manner."

In addition, Slaby proposed greatly limiting the activities of the CIA, criticizing recent attempts by senators to give the organization greater powers.

Cavanagh, Slaby, and John Kelly, editor of Counterspy magazine, also attacked CIA recruitment of and spying on Princeton students.

Although they admitted that they were unaware of the extent of such activities, the three speakers said that they have occurred in the past and still take place.